

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) An insulating cover assembly in combination with ~~for~~ an existing attic access ~~opening~~, the combination ~~insulating cover~~ comprising:

an existing attic access defining an existing attic access opening therethrough and having a trap door for closing said opening;

a continuous frame having spaced side walls and spaced end walls and which frame is formed of a free standing insulating material, said frame defining a frame ~~an~~ opening therethrough for alignment with said existing attic ~~the~~ access opening, ~~and~~ said frame being of a size and configuration so as ~~to be adapted~~ to surround said existing attic ~~the~~ access opening; and

a removable closure member formed of a free standing insulating material ~~and having side and end walls~~, said removable closure member not being bonded to any portion of said continuous frame, and said removable closure member including:

a depending central portion, said depending central portion being sized and shaped ~~to of a size to~~ fit within said opening defined by said frame and frictionally and snugly engage said side walls and end walls of said frame inside said opening to create a first continuous seal with ~~within~~ said frame when said removable closure member is positioned on ~~within~~ said frame in covering relationship with respect to said opening defined by said frame; [[,]] and

an upper portion forming flanges, said flanges extending ~~said closure member including flange portions which extend~~ laterally outward ~~outwardly~~ relative to said depending central portion, said flanges being sized and shaped to frictionally and snugly engage an upper surface for seating against upper surfaces of said side and end walls of said frame to create thereby form a second continuous seal with said frame when said removable closure member is positioned on said frame in covering relationship with respect to said opening defined by said frame;

wherein said closure member is not hinged to and detaches ~~becomes independent~~ from said ~~continuous~~ frame when said first continuous seal and said second continuous seal are broken by a force applied to said removable closure member through said frame opening; and

wherein said first seal and said second seal are generally orthogonal to each other when said removable closure member is positioned on said frame in covering relationship with respect to said opening defined by said frame. ~~closure member is disengaged from said opening defined by said frame.~~

15-16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 14 in which said frame includes a generally continuous depending portion extending downward from each of said side and end walls, said generally continuous depending portions being configured so as to extend into said existing attic ~~within the~~ access opening and to frictionally seat ~~within and seal to~~ said existing attic ~~a structural frame defining the~~ access opening.

18-20 (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 17 ~~20~~ including at least one handle mounted to extend from a lower surface of said depending central portion of said removable closure member so as to be accessible within said frame ~~the access~~ opening when said removable closure member is positioned on said frame in covering relationship with respect to said frame opening ~~the insulating cover is in place.~~

22. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 14 including at least one handle extending from a lower surface of said removable closure member so as to be accessible within said frame ~~the access~~ opening when said removable closure member is positioned on said frame in covering relationship with respect to said frame opening ~~the insulating cover is in place.~~

23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 14 in which said removable closure member includes at least first and second components each having opposing

edges which are configured to cooperatively engage one another to create a seal therebetween, and means for adhesively securing said opposing edges so as to form a unified removable closure member.

25. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 14 wherein ~~including~~ said removable closure member and said frame ~~are being~~ coated with a fire retardant material.

26. (cancelled)

27. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 14 in which said insulating material of said removable closure member and said frame is an expanded polymeric material.

28. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 14 wherein said trap door comprises a hatch ~~cover is sized and shaped to enclose an attic trap door.~~

29. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 14 wherein said trap door is attached to a fold down ~~cover is sized and shaped to enclose an attic access ladder.~~

30. (cancelled)

31. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 14 wherein said removable closure member comprises ~~at least~~ two pieces, the two pieces having a seal between them when positioned on ~~within~~ said frame in covering relationship with respect to said frame opening ~~defined by said frame.~~

32. (currently amended) The combination ~~insulating cover~~ of claim 31 wherein said two pieces are adhered together.